

IN THE CLAIMS

- 1-23 (cancelled)
24. (previously presented) A water-containing medium with increased viscosity comprising water and a gellable polymer component with phenolic substituents modified with the aid of polyphenol oxidases, wherein it is modified by a protein with tyrosinase activity.
25. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein it is additionally modified by an enzyme mixture containing hydrolases, oxidoreductases and peroxidases.
26. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein it is a gel, optionally in a dried, partially dried, rehydrated or partially rehydrated state.
27. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the polymer component carries monophenolic substituents.
28. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the polymer component is at least one polysaccharide and in particular one containing (un)substituted cinnamic ester groups.
29. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 28, wherein the at least one polysaccharide is arabinoxylan or a pectin.
30. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 29, wherein the medium contains pectin that is derived from Chenopodiaceae, sugar beet or pulps thereof.

31. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 29, wherein the medium contains pectin from which at least one of the arabinose groups was removed, optionally under slightly acidic conditions at a pH between 6.0 and 7.5 or with the aid of an enzyme or arabinofuranosidase.
32. (currently amended) The medium as claimed in claim 29 ~~claim 30~~, wherein the arinoxylan component is derived from a cereal, maize, wheat, flour or coarse meal.
33. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the polymer was modified by tyrosinase [EC 1.14.18.1].
34. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the protein with tyrosinase activity is derived from a plant of the Solanaceae family, potatoes, apples, aubergines, chicory, bananas, avocados, tea plants or mushrooms.
35. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the modification was carried out using an enzyme mixture containing a β -galactosidase, glucose oxidase, peroxidase and optionally a catalase.
36. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the medium is dried.
37. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 24, wherein the enzyme responsible for the modification are present in an inactive form after the modification is completed.
38. (previously presented) The medium as claimed in claim 37, wherein the medium contains enzymes that have been chemically or thermally inactivated.
39. (previously presented) A composition comprising a pharmaceutical adjuvant, cosmetic

adjuvant, food or texturing agent and the medium of claim 24.

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